

In the Claims

1. (original) An animal coat comprising:

two side portions arranged to hang down from the animal's back alongside respective sides of the animal's body;

a neck opening defined by said side portions, and arranged to engage around the animal's neck; and

two leg holders, each secured to an inner face of the coat at the rear part of a respective one of the side portions, and arranged to receive a respective hind leg of the animal.
2. (original) An animal coat according to claim 1, wherein the leg holders are above the lower level of said side portions.
3. (currently amended) An animal coat according to claim 1 ~~or 2~~, wherein each of the leg holders is continuous.
4. (currently amended) An animal coat according to claim 1, ~~2 or 3~~, wherein each of the leg holders is of stretch material.
5. (currently amended) An animal coat according to ~~any of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, wherein each of the leg holders has a depth that is 10% or more of the maximum circumference of the leg holder.
6. (currently amended) An animal coat according to ~~any of claims 1 to 4~~ claim 1, wherein each of the leg holders has a depth that is at least 8, 10 or 12% of the maximum circumference of the leg holder.

7. (currently amended) An animal coat according to ~~any of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, wherein each of the leg holders has a depth that is 30% or less of the maximum circumference of the leg holder.
8. (original) An animal coat according to claim 7, wherein the depth of each of the leg holders is at most 30, 25 or 20% of the maximum circumference of the leg holder.
9. (original) An animal coat according to claim 8, wherein the depth of each of the leg holders is in the range 12 to 18% of the maximum circumference of the leg holder.
10. (original) An animal coat according to claim 10, wherein the depth of each of the leg holders is 15% of the maximum circumference of the leg holder.
11. (currently amended) An animal coat according to ~~any of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, further comprising closure means for joining said two side portions such that the coat may be opened and closed to facilitate fitting of the coat.
12. (original) An animal coat comprising:

two side portions arranged to hang down from the animal's back alongside respective sides of the animal's body; and

means for retaining at least one of said side portions in a raised position and releasing that side portion to a lowered position.
13. (original) An animal coat according to claim 12, wherein said retaining means comprises a plurality of tapes secured to the coat and means for securing said tapes in a position in which said at least one side portion is in a raised position.
14. (currently amended) An animal coat according to claim 12 ~~or 13~~, wherein said retaining means is arranged to retain both of said side portions in raised positions and to release said side portions to lowered positions.

15. (cancelled).

16. (currently amended) A method of fitting an animal coat according to ~~any of the preceding~~ claim 1, the method comprising the steps of measuring dimensions of an animal, transferring those dimensions to a pattern, making an animal coat from that pattern, and fitting the coat to an animal.

17 - 18. (cancelled).

19. (new) An animal coat according to claim 1, further comprising means for retaining at least one of said side portions in a raised position and releasing that side portion to a lowered position.

20. (new) An animal coat according to claim 19, wherein said retaining means comprises a plurality of tapes secured to the coat and means for securing said tapes in a position in which said at least one side portion is in a raised position.

21. (new) An animal coat according to claim 19, wherein said retaining means is arranged to retain both of said side portions in raised positions and to release said side portions to lowered positions.